



curtisseyfried@mindspring.com on 07/24/2000 04:28:53 PM

To: Group Civilrights@EPA
cc:

Subject: To: Ann Goode, Title VI Aug 1 in NYC

I will NOT be able to attend the "Public Listening Session" on August 1, 2000 at Region 2 headquarters in NYC as I will be away. I WILL be submitting written comments before Aug. 28th, 2000.

The following are some initial brief comments and questions:

1. Would these guidance principles, if adopted, be applicable to EPA having authority over New York state Department of Environmental Conservation, and New York City Department of Environmental Protection? BOTH of these agencies accept Federal \$\$\$'s and BOTH of these issue environmental permits. Please respond to this to me by e-mail. Also I would like this question posed at the "Public Listening Session."

2. A comment on the "Public Listening Session." I guess EPA is getting wise in telling CBO's ahead of time that their input will not be taken at the session, that CBO's and the Public are ONLY here to "LISTEN" to what EPA has to say. You WILL find that, even if I am not there to raise this issue, there will be many unhappy CBO representatives at this meeting who will bring EPA to task for ONLY expecting us to Listen ! This may NOT have been your intent, but it is the message sent !

3. This, #2, is the whole crux of the EJ and Civil Rights issues, government agencies ARE

NOT responsive to, and DO NOT want to listen to, CBO's and the general public !! Well, you will listen to us whether you want to or not !

Sincerely yours,
Curtis Seyfried, Project Manager.
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Detailed Written comments to follow.

Biography of Nos Quedamos Project Manager, Curtis Seyfried

Curtis Seyfried, B.Sc., M.A., Project Manager for Environmental and Health Programs. He represents Nos Quedamos in coalitions, working groups, and task forces dealing with issues such as: equitable solid waste disposal; transportation and air quality; the

Hudson River Estuary Management Program; Bronx & NYC waterfront; environmental justice; and parks and open spaces, including community gardens.

He previously has worked: 1), For three years in the Office of the Mayor of NYC, in Council On The Environment Of NYC's (CENYC), Waste Prevention and Recycling Service (WPRS), as a project manager for waste prevention audits and studies; 2), For major law firms, such as Simpson, Thatcher and Bartlett; 3), In the Legal -- Environmental Health and Safety department of Pfizer, Inc., a major pharmaceutical company; 4), and, in Chemical Bank, for the Vice President of the Customer Account Service department producing Management Information Systems (MIS) reports for four years.

He holds an MA., in Environmental Policy Studies and Analysis, 1996, from SUNY Empire State College; a B.Sc., in Biological and Environmental Sciences, 1992, from SUNY Empire State College; and, Diplomas, from New York University in: Paralegal Studies 1995; and, Project Management 1988.

It is suspected that in this section of the Bronx there are extraordinarily high levels of lead, and other heavy metals, and hydrocarbons in the soil. This assumption is supported by previous activity that has occurred. It is known that buildings that were previously located on these sites were razed by implosion. Thus, the lead and other toxins from paint, building materials, pesticide residues from years of chemical vermin control, have settled into the site.

Additionally, the building heating fuel oil storage tanks that were in the basements of these buildings were not emptied or removed when the building was imploded into the site. This represents the likelihood of numerous "hot spots" of hydrocarbon contamination.

The practice of scraping and painting the overhead roadways and bridges that span the South Bronx communities, contribute significant amounts of additional lead, hydrocarbon and other heavy metal contaminants to the environment.

Nos Quedamos will work to assess and document these conditions and plan remediation projects for the South Bronx Community. We will be working in partnership on these projects with: Bronx Community College Environmental Technology Program, Dr. Reid Strieby; Greenway Environmental Services, Shabaz Jackson & Josephine Papagni, principals; Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Dr. Luce Claudio; Montefiore Medical Center, Dr. Philip Ozuah & Dr. Maslinsky; Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Dr. Strelnick; Columbia University School of Public Health, Dr. Patrick L. Kinney; and others.

Nos Quedamos additionally plans, with these partners to create educational programs for qualified community residents so that our constituents will be able to be employed in this expanding environmental remediation industry. As an added benefit of these projects our community's residents will become qualified to participate and plan their community's future environmental health.

Peace and Good Health, (->)

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A quote from John Warren - "You never know when, where, how, or under what circumstances, you will see something, hear something, read something, experience something, or meet someone who will change your life forever. Look for those experiences in 2000!"

"Technology is of no use to us if it is used without respect for the earth and its processes." -- Aldo Leopold

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